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Equivalents:

Description

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. application Ser. No. 10/101,249 filed Mar. 18, 2002; which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/747,181 filed Dec. 21, 2000, and issued May 7, 2002 as U.S. Pat. No. 6,384,387; which is a continuation in part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/611,761 filed Jul. 7, 2000, and issued Aug. 13, 2002 as U.S. Pat. No. 6,433,313; which is a continuation in part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/504,550 filed Feb. 15, 2000, and issued Mar. 5, 2002 as U.S. Pat. No. 6,353,208. The entire disclosures of U.S. patent application Ser. Nos. 10/101,249, 09/747,181, 09/611,761 and 09/504,550 are incorporated herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The invention relates to a delivery apparatus for keeping an article warm during transport, a delivery apparatus assembly for charging a delivery apparatus, a heater for heating an article, and a method for delivering an article.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Food products, such as pizza, are frequently prepared and cooked at a store location. The prepared food product is then delivered to a customer at a home or place of business.

[0004] A freshly cooked food product may be stored at the store location awaiting a delivery person's transportation of the food product to the customer. It is common to prepare pizza and store it in a cardboard box. The cardboard box is placed under a heat lamp awaiting pickup by a delivery person. The delivery person then stores the cardboard box in a thermally insulated carrying case for delivery to the consumer. Despite these methods, the product may lose heat during storage and transportation and the temperature of the product may decrease. If the product becomes too cool, it may become